



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Alaska District

Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Branch (1145b)
3437 Airport Way, Suite 206
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-4777

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE April 9, 2003
EXPIRATION DATE: May 9, 2003
REFERENCE NUMBER: 4-2002-1078
WATERWAY NUMBER: Moose Creek 25

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the attached plan.

APPLICANT United States Army, Building 3015, Fort Wainwright, Alaska 99703

LOCATION: Sections 23, 24, and 25, Township 2 South, Range 3 East, Sections 28, 29, 31, 32, and 33, Township 2 South, Range 4, East, Fairbanks Meridian, near Eielson AFB, Alaska. Manchu Lake Road coordinates 64° 43' 33" N., 147° 05' 19" W at Transmitter Road junction, 64° 42' 52" N., 147° 03' 08" W. at Moose Creek crossing, 64° 41' 51" N., 147° 01' 53" W. at Manchu Road Junction. Infantry Platoon Battle Course approximate center coordinates 64° 42' 09" N., 146° 58' 50" W. Multi-Purpose Training Range approximate center coordinates 64° 41' 38" N, 146° 58' 24" W.

WORK: Place approximately 54,450 cubic yards of fill material (local pit run gravel and unclassified fill) into approximately 13.5 acres of wetlands.

PURPOSE: To construct a Multipurpose Training Range (MPTR), Infantry Platoon Battle Course (IPBC), and permanent access road, to support the 172nd Infantry Brigade's training activities and transition to a Stryker Brigade.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The majority of work for this project would take place in uplands. Wetlands impacts would include work for the construction of Manchu Lake Road (41,800 cubic yards, 5.95 acres), MPTR (2,950 cubic yards, 1.15 acres), and IPBC (9,692 cubic yards, 6.33 acres). Dimensions of all fill placements are detailed in the attached plans (17 pages) dated April 1, 2003.

The MPTR and IPBC would consist of the construction of multiple target pads to support mechanical lifting and moving of target arrays as well as a network of roads to allow for maneuvering and servicing of the targets. The ranges would be constructed in accordance with Training Circular 25-8 available at <http://www.adtdl.army.mil/cgi-bin/atdl.dll/tc/25-8/toc.htm>. A road (Manchu Lake Road) would be constructed on the existing Manchu Lake trail from Moose Creek to Transmitter Road. The abutments for the Bailey bridge over Moose Creek would be replaced. Improvements to the previously authorized portion of Manchu Lake Road from Moose Creek to Manchu Road would also take place. This road would be the main access route for brigade troops and vehicles.

The applicant currently has a draft environmental assessment discussing these projects open for public review and available at http://www.usarak.army.mil/conservation/env_assessments.htm. Mr. David W. Patterson, Range Facility Manager, Building 5108, Range Control, Fort Wainwright Alaska 99703, (907) 353-1242 is the authorized agent for this project application.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There are unevaluated properties in the vicinity of the worksite designated FAI-0015\\FAI-00157 and FAI-0015\\FAI-00156. Because the property has been determined to lie within the project area, a determination of eligibility and, if needed, a determination of effect will be made in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer at this time, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. This application is being coordinated with SHPO. Any comments SHPO may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: No threatened or endangered species are known to use the project area. Preliminarily, the described activity will not affect threatened or endangered species, or their critical habitat designated as endangered or threatened, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). This application is being coordinated with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The proposed work is being evaluated for possible effects to Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) pursuant to the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996, 16 U.S.C. et seq and associated federal regulations found at 50 CFR 600 Subpart K. The Alaska District includes areas of EFH as Fishery Management Plans. We have reviewed the January 20, 1999, North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Environmental Assessment to locate EFH area as identified by the National Marine Fisheries Service. We have determined that the described activity within the proposed area will not adversely affect EFH, including anadromous fish and federally managed fishery resources.

SPECIAL AREA DESIGNATION: The project is located within military training lands

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts which the proposed activity may have on the public interest requires a careful weighing of all those factors which become relevant in each particular case. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The decision whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur, are

therefore determined by the outcome of the general balancing process. That decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving Section 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's Section 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Mrs. Sheila Newman at (907) 474-2166, if further information is desired concerning this notice.

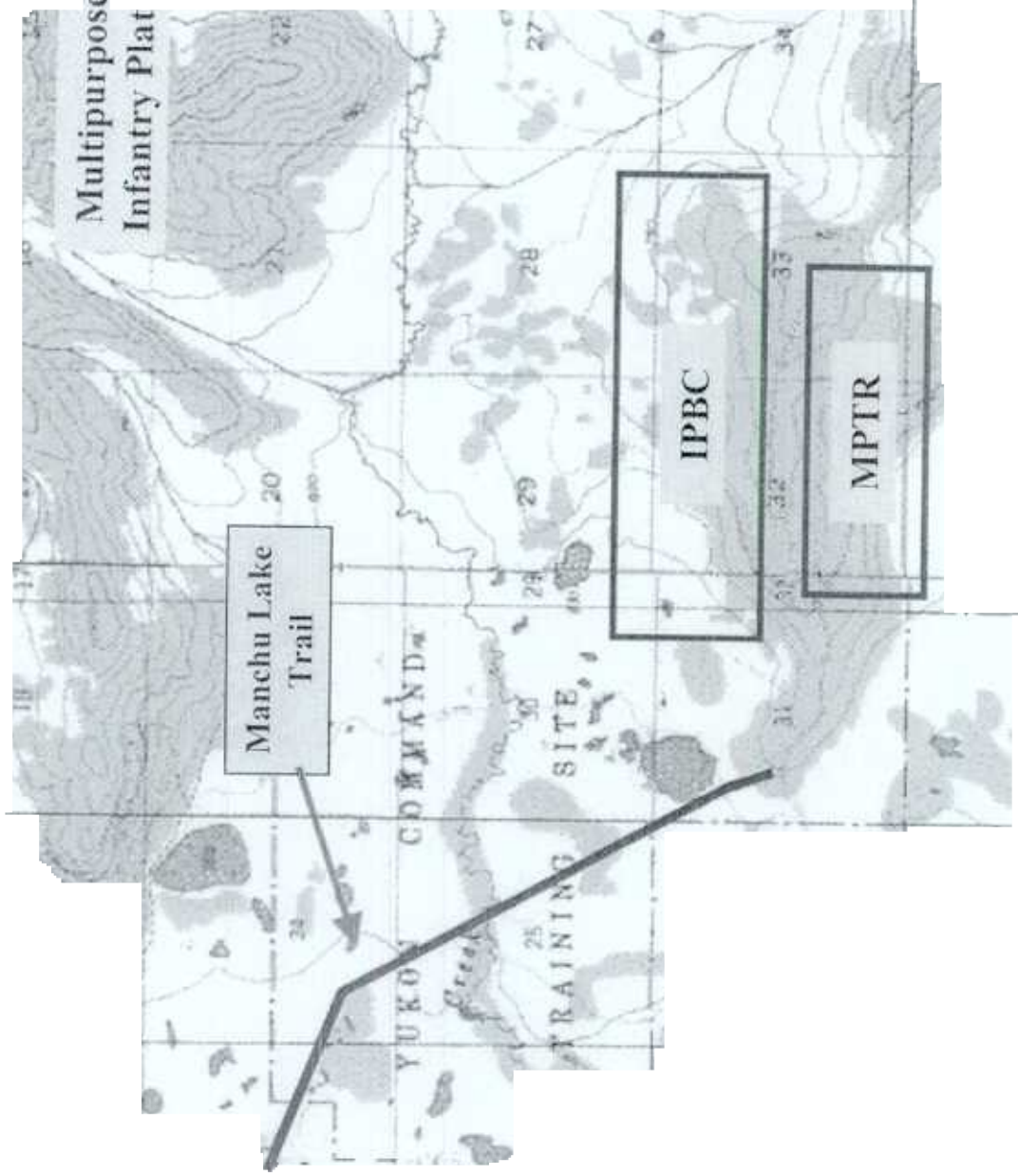
AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authority:

(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States - Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

A plan and Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are attached to this Public Notice.

District Engineer
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Attachments



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EA

YUKON
XINING

500,000

Manchu Lake Road

Post Boundary

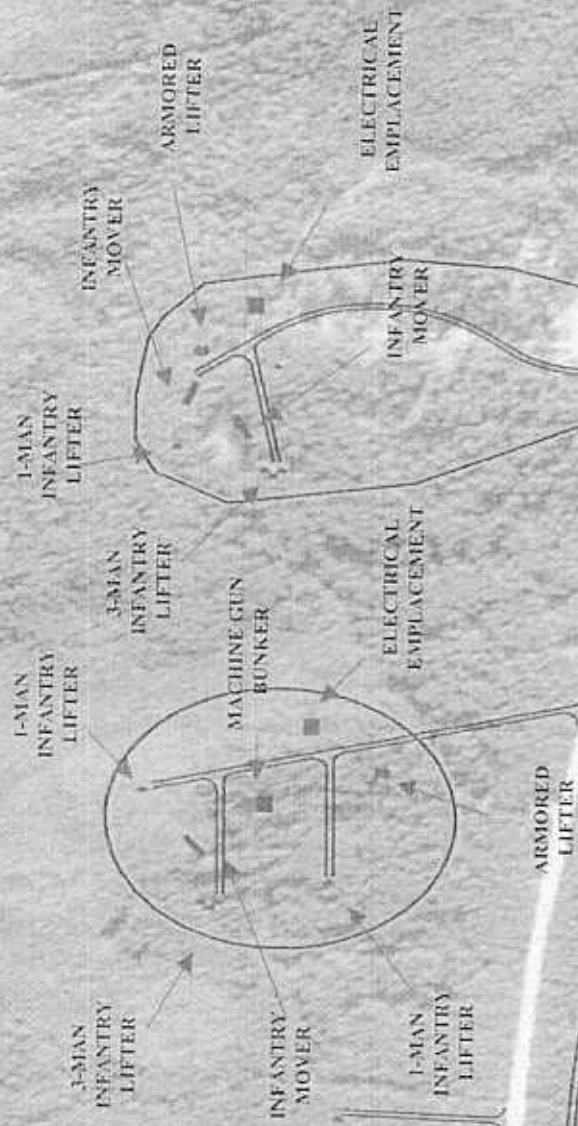
Area Depicted on Mapsheet

Manchu R

Eelson
Air Force
Base

United States Army, Ft. Wainwright
4-2002-1078, Moose Creek 25
Plan View
April 1, 2003
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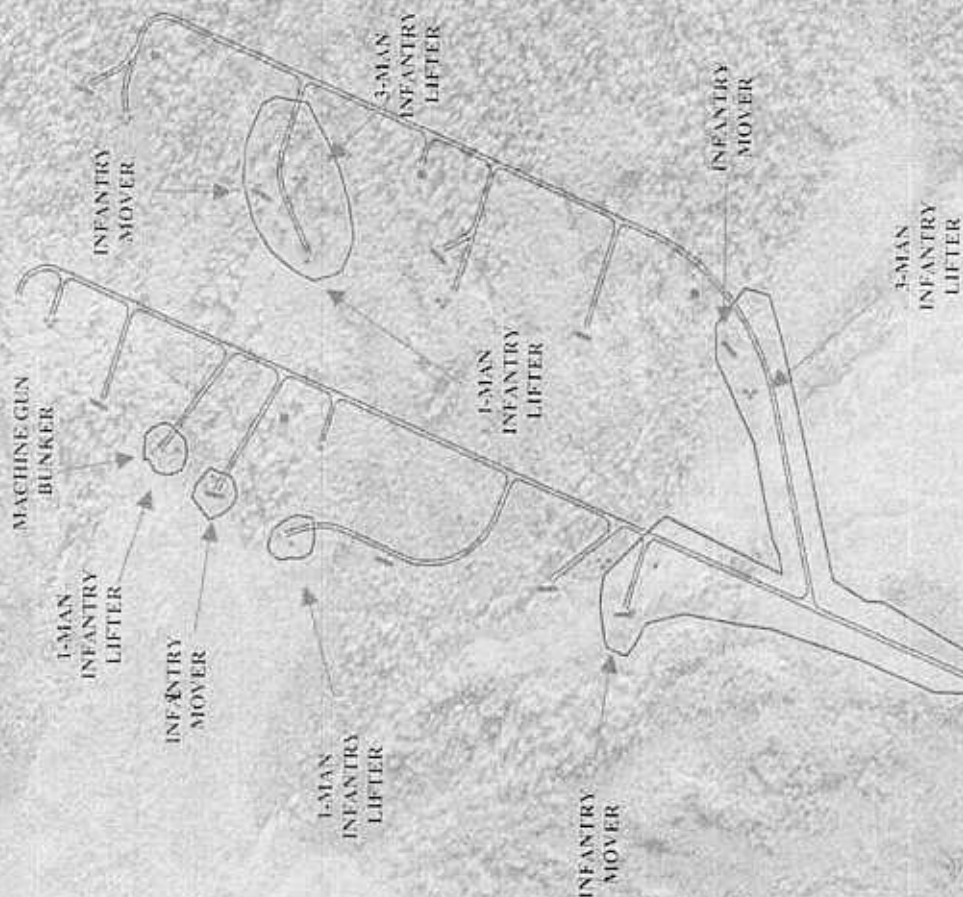
MPTR/IPBC WEST COURSE



United States Army, Ft. Mainwright
4-2002-1078, Moose Creek 25
Plan View depicting wetland areas

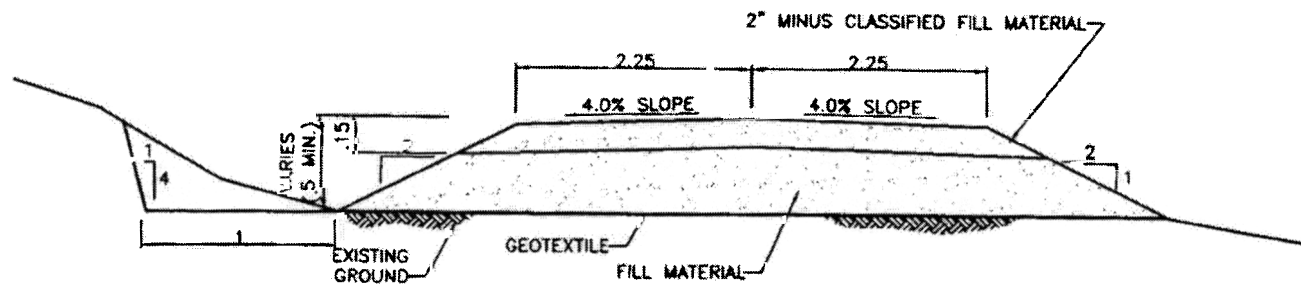
Indicates wetland areas imj

IPBC EAST COURSE

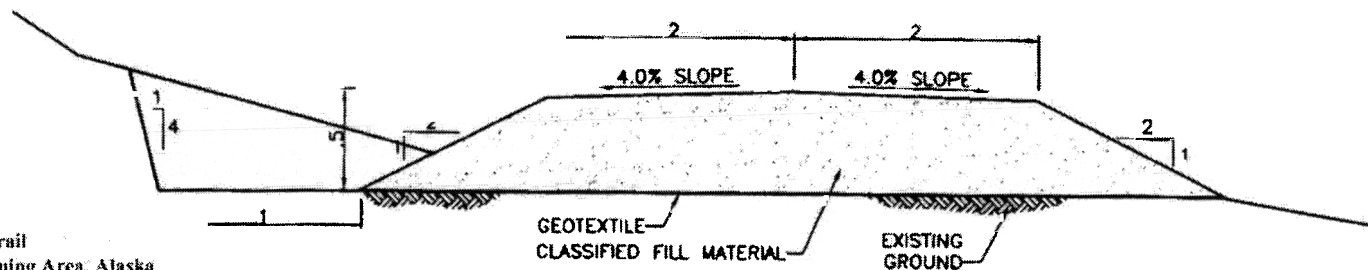


2/Manche Lake Trail
right, Yukon Training Area, Alaska
To provide a realistic training range
ing requirements of the Stryker BDE
er Body: Tanana River
orth Star Borough
1,22 T.2S., R.3,4E Fairbanks Meridian

MPTR/IPBC ROADS AND TRAILS



STRYKER TRAIL
CROSS SECTION

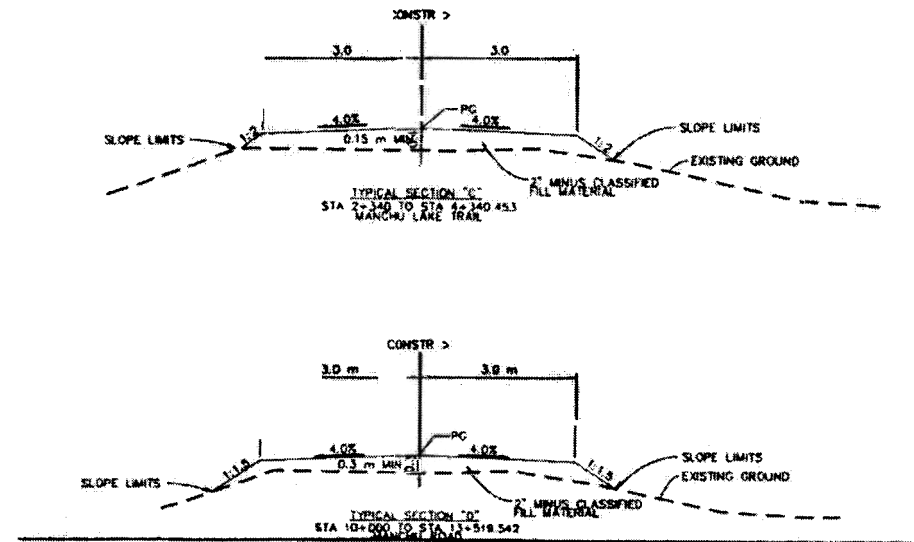
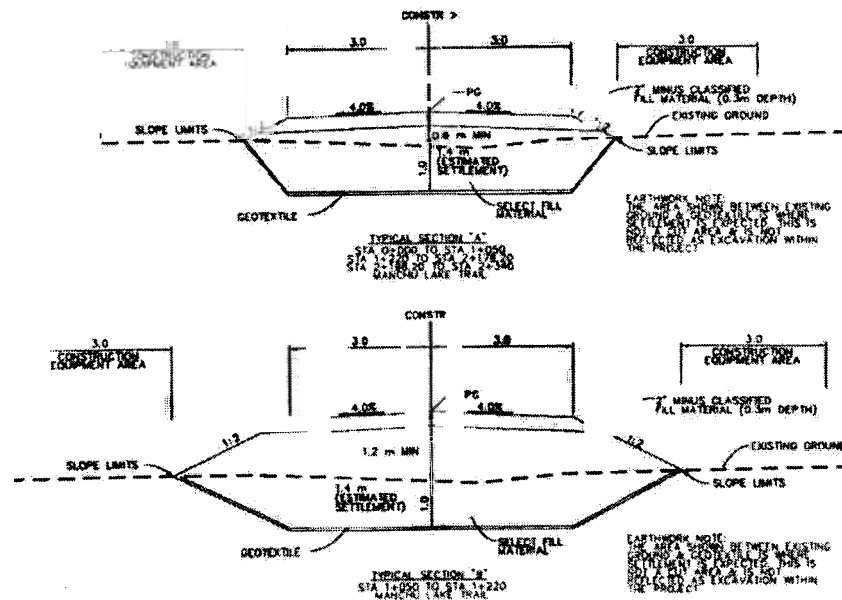


ACCESS ROAD
CROSS SECTION

MPTR/IPBC/Manchu Lake Trail
Fort Wainwright, Yukon Training Area, Alaska
PURPOSE: To provide a realistic training range
To meet training requirements of the Stryker BDE
Nearest Water Body: Tanana River
Fairbanks North Star Borough
Section 25,31,32 T.2S., R3,4E Fairbanks Meridian

United States Army, Ft. Wainwright
4-2002-1078, Moose Creek
Cross Sections
April 1, 2003
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MPTR/IPBC MANCHU LAKE TRAIL



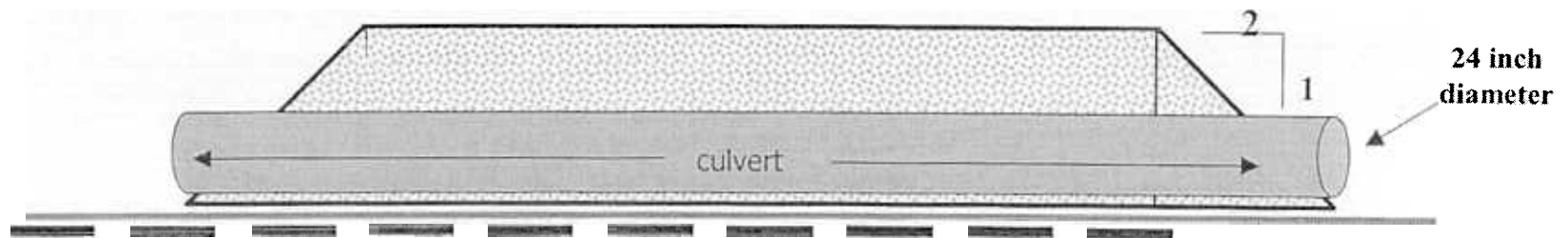
MPTR/IPBC/Manchu Lake Trail
Fort Wainwright, Yukon Training Area, Alaska
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United States Army, Ft. Wainwright
4-2002-1078, Moose Creek 25
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April 1, 2003
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Multipurpose Training Range Tank Trail With Culvert (Side View)

Number of Culverts	
Manchu Lake Trail:	7 EA
MPTR:	22EA
IPBC	10EA

 Existing Ground Level
 Geotextile



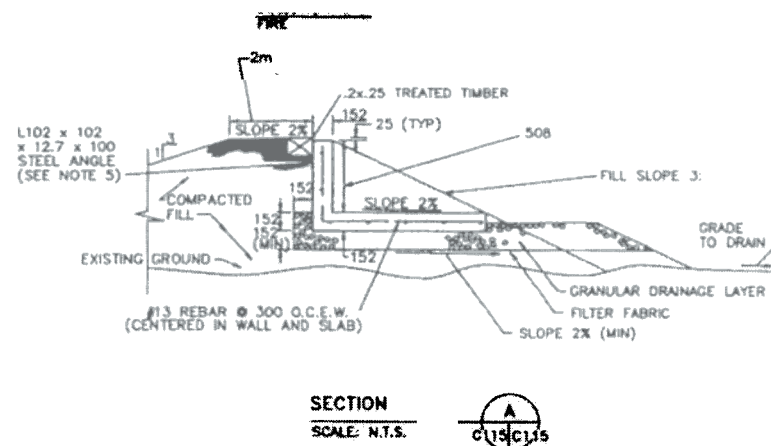
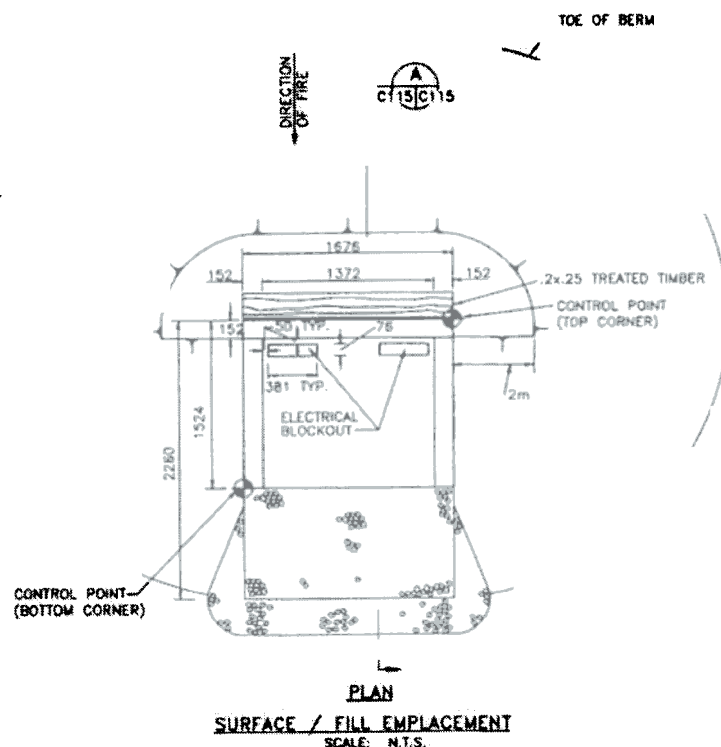
MPTR/IPBC/Manchu Lake Trail
 Fort Wainwright, Yukon Training Area, Alaska
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 Section 25,31,32 T.2S., R3,4E Fairbanks Meridian

United States Army, Ft. Wainwright
 4-2002-1078, Moose Creek 25
 Culverts-Cross Sections
 April 1, 2003
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MPTR/IPBC

STATIONARY INFANTRY TARGET EMPLACEMENT

Total Emplacements: 6 EA



MPTR/IPBC/Manchu Lake Trail
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Section 25,31,32 T.2S., R3.4E Fairbanks Meridian

4-2002-10
Plan view,
stationary
April 1, 2
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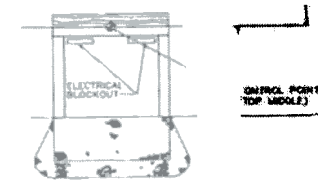
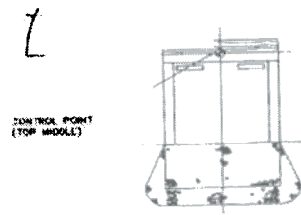
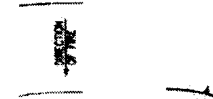
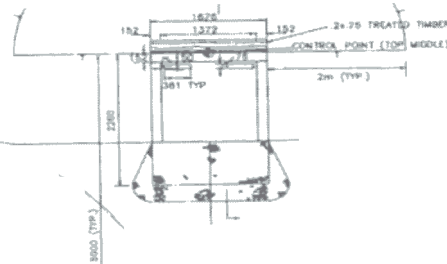
Fort Wainwright
Moose Creek
cross section
infantry target

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SECTION
SCALE: N.T.S.



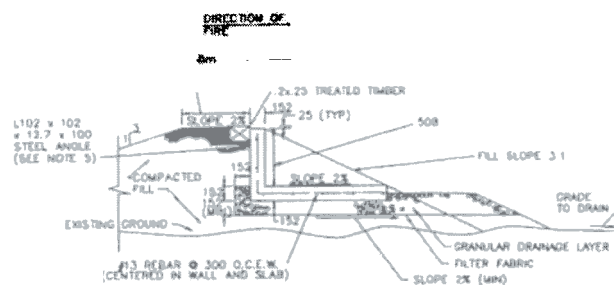
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United States Army, Ft. Wainwright
4-2002-1078, Moose Creek 25
Plan view/cross section 3-man
stationary infantry targets
April 1, 2003
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MPTR/IPBC

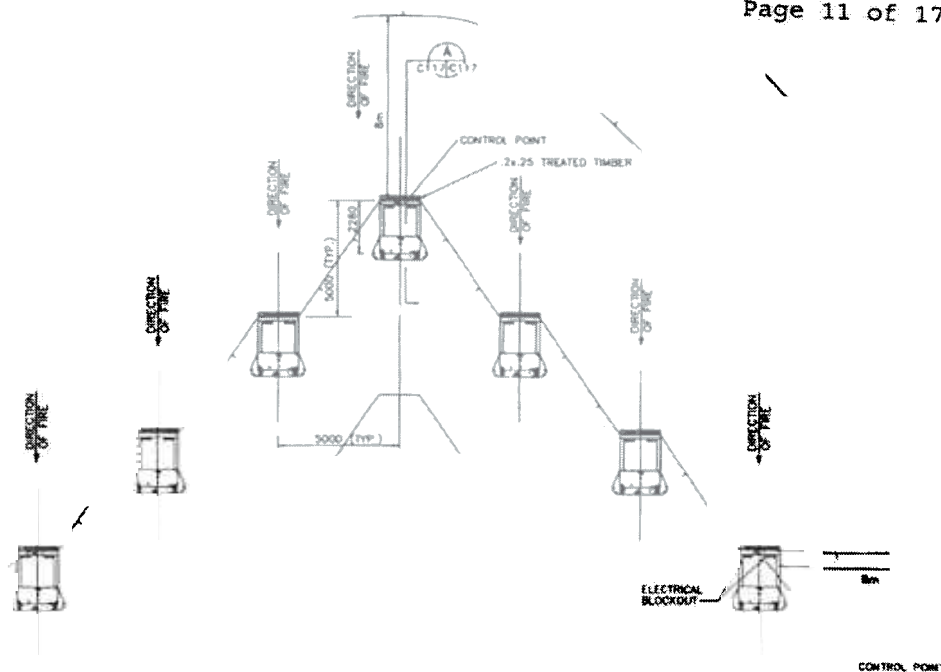
7-MAN INFANTRY TARGET EMPLACEMENT



SECTION
SCALE: N.T.S.

Total Emplacements: 1 EA

United States Army, Ft. Wainwright
4-2002-1078, Moose Creek 25
Plan view/cross section 7-man
stationary infantry targets
April 1, 2003
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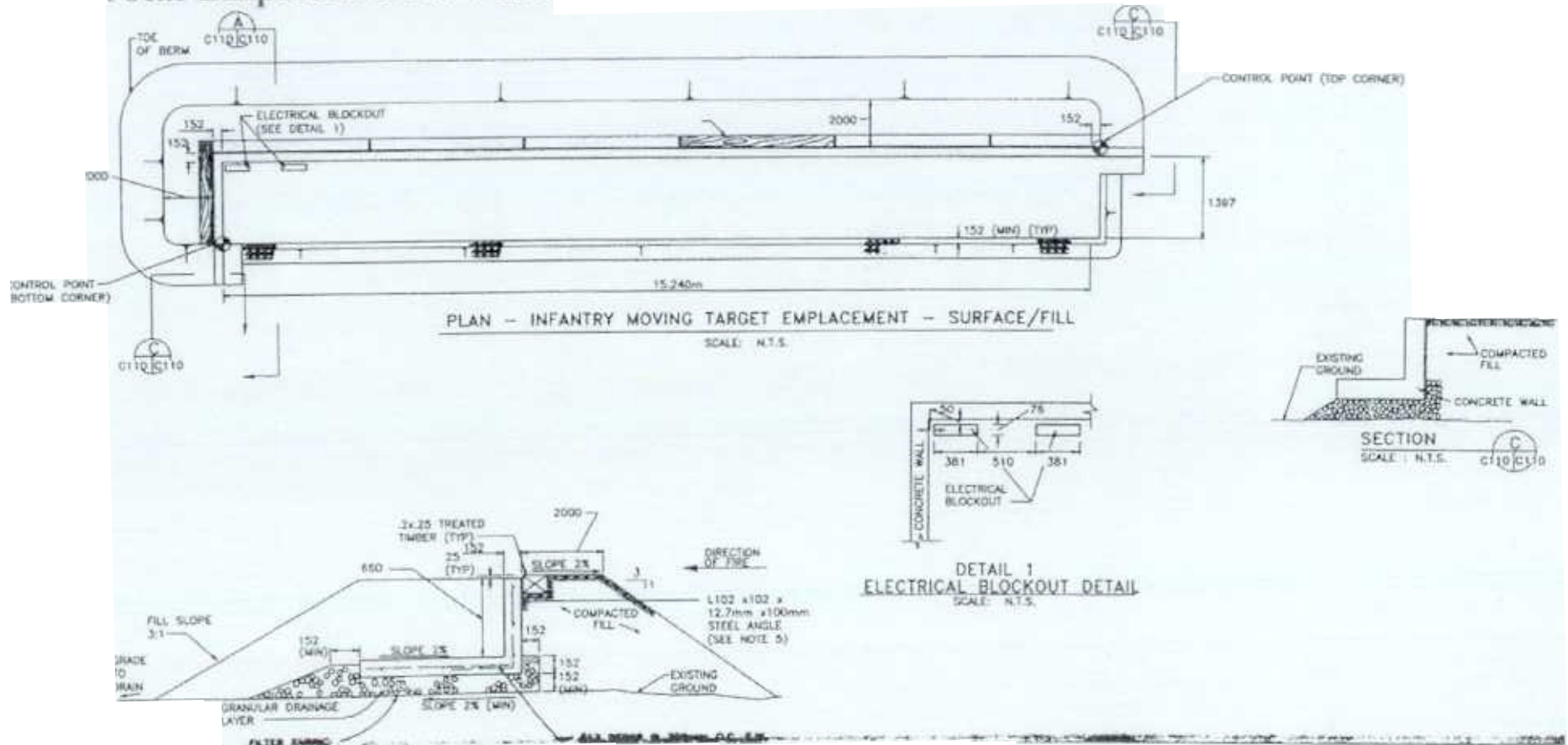


MPTR/IPBC/Manchu Lake Trail
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Section 25,31,32 T.2S., R3,4E Fairbanks Meridian

MPTR/IPBC

INFANTRY MOVING TARGET EMPLACEMENT

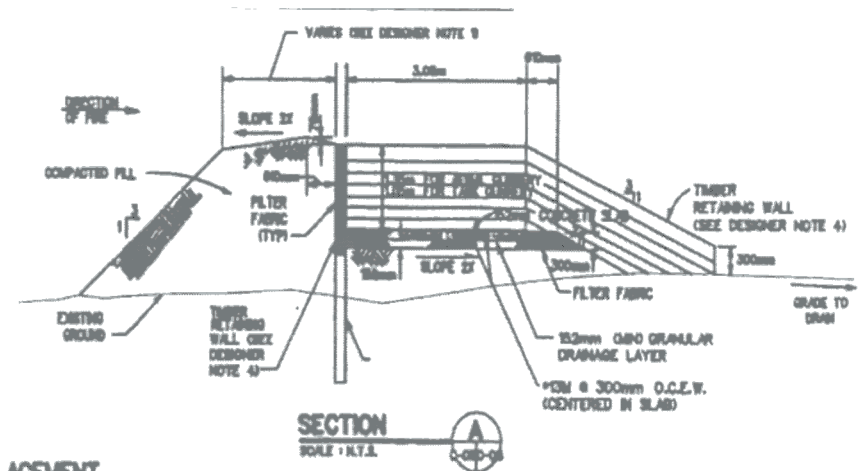
Total Emplacements: 7 EA



MPTR/IPBC/Manchu Lake Trail
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 Nearest Water Body: Tanana River
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United States Army, Ft. Wainwright
 4-2002-1078, Moose Creek 25
 Plan view/cross section
 moving infantry targets
 April 1, 2003
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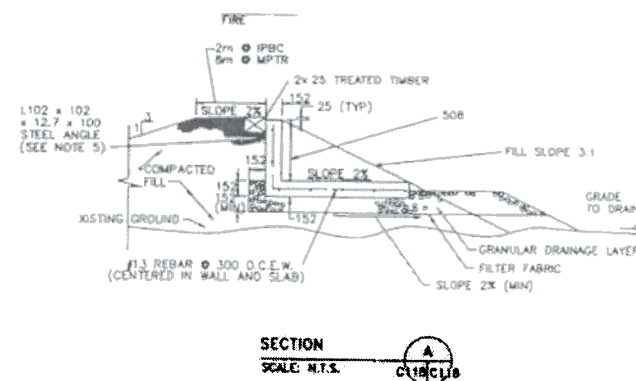
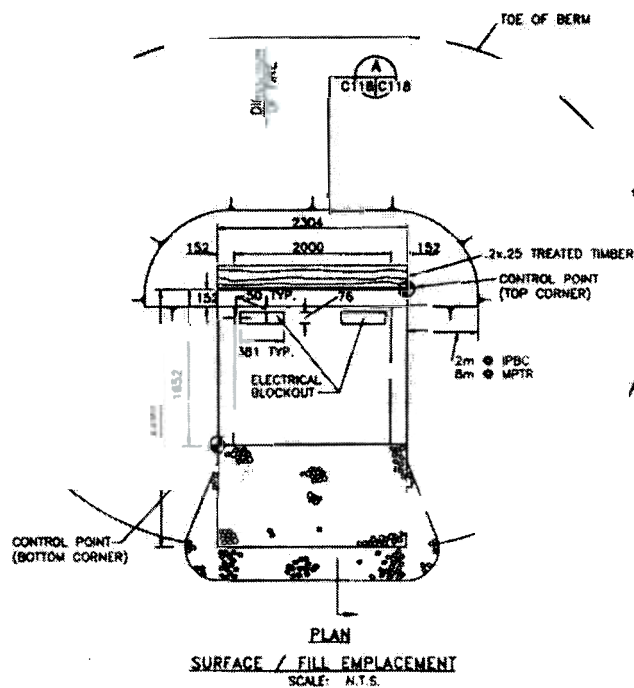
Total Emplacements: 2 EA



lan tat. nar arm targets

MPTR/IPBC POWER EMPLACEMENT

Total Emplacements: 2 EA

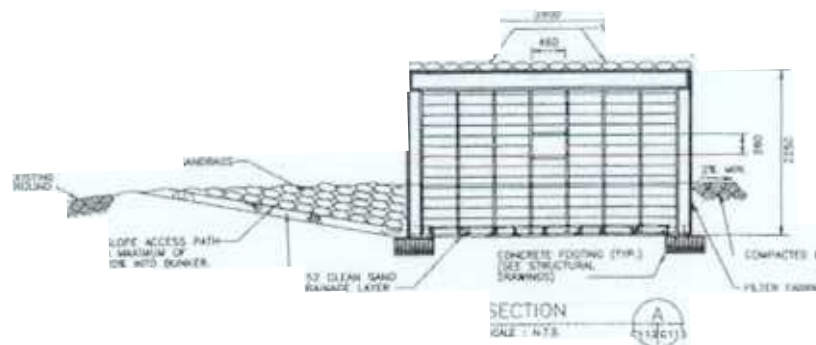
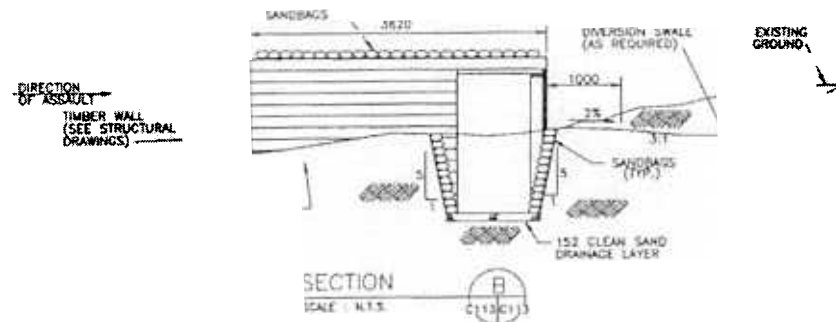


MPTR/IPBC/Manchu Lake Trail
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Fairbanks North Star Borough
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United States Army, Ft. Wainwright
4-2002-1078, Moose Creek 25
Plan view/cross section power
supplies
April 1, 2003
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MPTR/IPBC MACHINE GUN BUNKER

Total Emplacements: 2 EA



MPTR/IPBC/Manchu Lake Trail
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Section 25,31,32 T.2S., R3,4E Fairbanks Meridian

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Page

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This complex is used to train and test infantry platoons, either mounted or dismounted, on the skills necessary to conduct tactical movement techniques, detect, identify, engage and defeat stationary and moving infantry and armor targets in a tactical array

Primary features include:

- 6 Stationary armor targets
- 1 Moving armor target
- 43 Stationary infantry targets
- 14 Moving infantry targets
- 9 Machine gun bunkers
- 1 Trench obstacles
- 1 Assault/defend house
- 2 Landing zones

This range allows the use of the following ammunition:

- 5.56mm
- 7.62mm
- .50 caliber
- 40 mm TP

All targets are fully automated and the event specific target scenario is computer driven and scored from the range operations center. The range operating system is fully capable of providing immediate performance feedback to the using participants.

Associated Range Operations and Control facilities:
Standard Small Arms ROCA Facilities

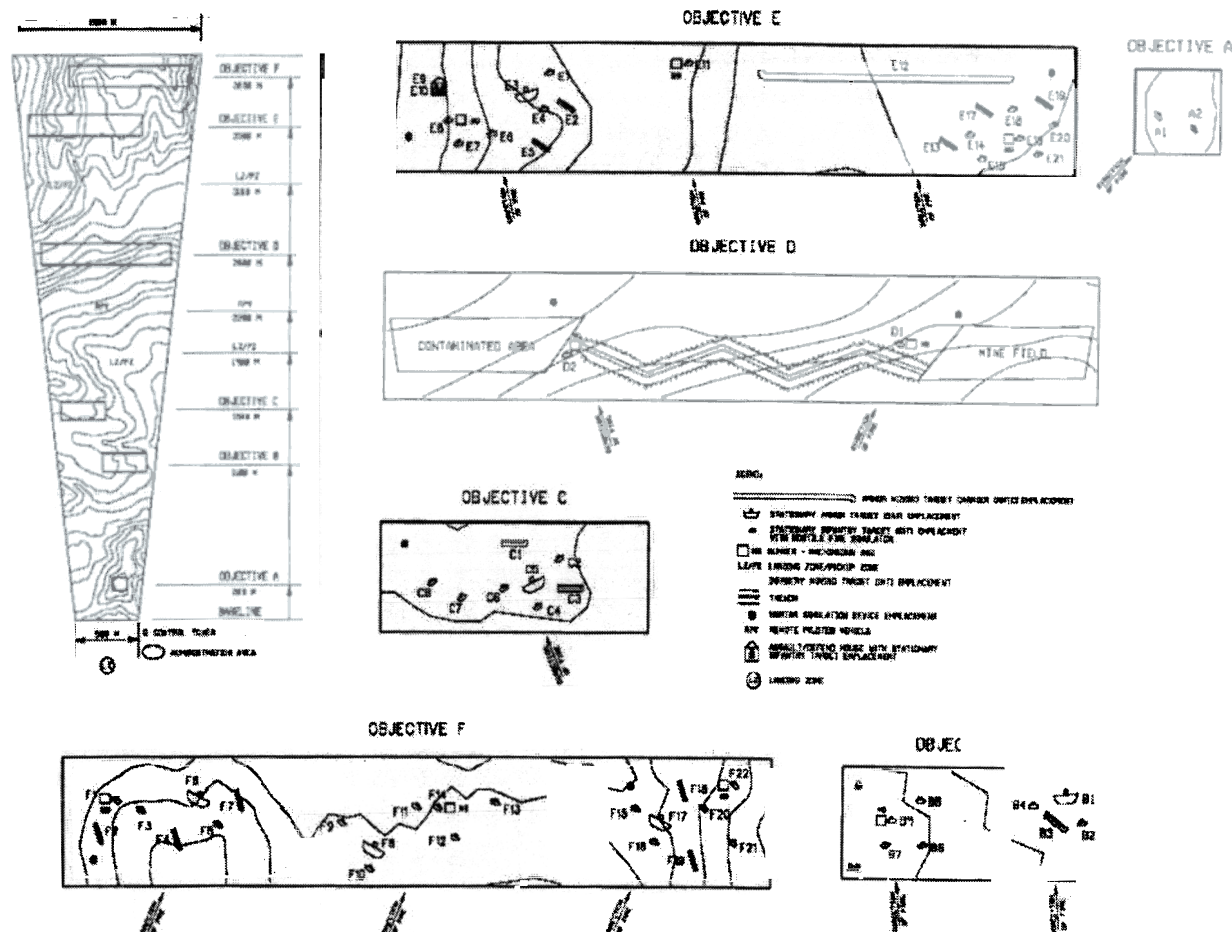
Requirement Document: FM 7-8, ARTEP 7-8 Drill, ARTEP 7-8 MTP, FM 23-1, TC 7-9

Additional Information: Target locations are site adapted. All must be located in areas that support desired tactics and the user's training requirements.

All trenches, bunkers, and target emplacements must simulate typical threat scenarios.

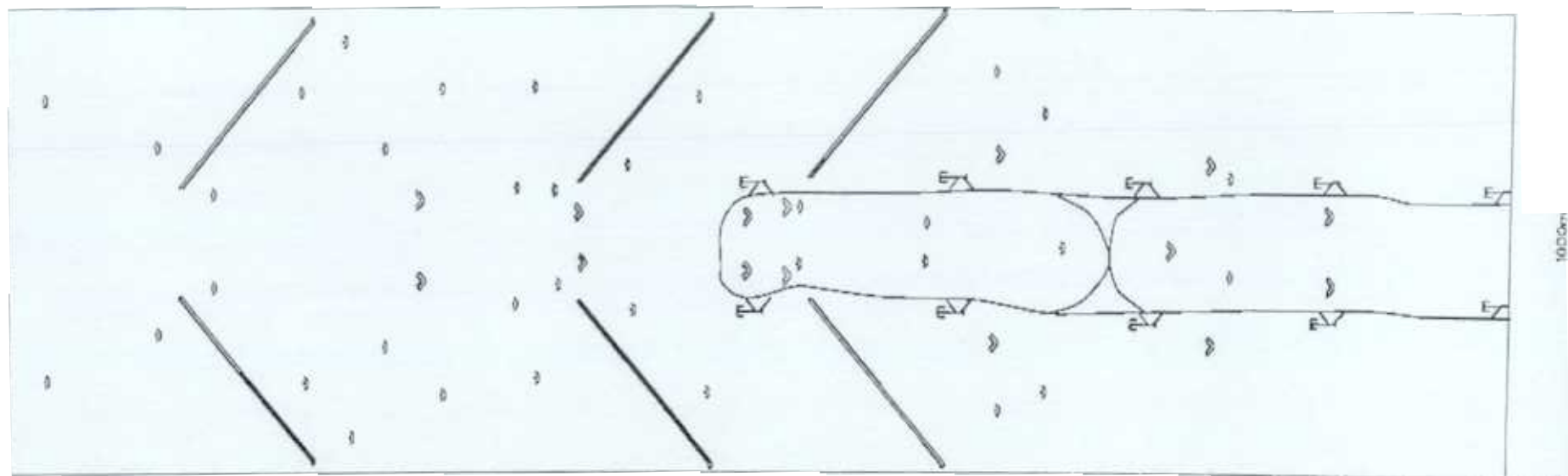
Mortar simulation device emplacements are located in areas from which unfriendly mortar fire is to be simulated.

Helicopter landing areas, designed for heavy use, should be located to support aerial insertion and extraction of the squad.



MPTR/IPBC/Manchu Lake Trail
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United States Army, Ft. Wainwright
4-2002-1078, Moose Creek
Standard Multipurpose
Training Range (MPTR)
April 1, 2003
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LEGEND



DEFILADE POSITION

TRAIL



MOVING ARMOR TARGET (MAT) EMPLACEMENT

STATIONARY ARMOR TARGET (SAT) EMPLACEMENT

STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

DIVISION OF AIR AND WATER QUALITY

Non-Point Source Control Section

401 Certification Program

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR
STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION**

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice No. 4-2002-1078, Moose Creek 25, serves as application for State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

After reviewing the application, the Department may certify that there is reasonable assurance that the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project with respect to Water Quality Certification may submit written comments within 30 days of the date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice to:

Department of Environmental Conservation
WQM/401 Certification
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2617
Telephone: (907) 269-7564
FAX: (907) 269-7508